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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/932,543	09/17/1997	YASUSHI KAWAKURA	1701.39203	5429

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JOSEPH M POTENZA
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WASHINGTON, DC 200014597

EXAMINER

TRAN, HAI V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

DATE MAILED: 02/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/932,543

Applicant(s)

KAWAKURA ET AL.

Examiner

Hai Tran

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/29/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/06/2005 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/06/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that neither AAAPA nor Pinder nor Oka teaches or suggests "issuing a message indicating that a request action is prohibited at a requested time and indicating a time period that allows a request action" in a case where judging section 2004 judges that the requested operation is not authorized" and further indicates the newly claimed limitation can be found in the Applicant specification, page 25, lines 3-10.

In response, Applicant argument is noted; however, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant because "issuing a message indicating that a request is prohibited and indicating a time period that allows a request action" is obvious for the purpose of alleviating frustration from users, indicating to user the state of a problem

that have to deal with by providing additional information to alert user when the problem could be solve, i.e. when the requested transaction could be resume.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant 's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA; Fig. 1; Specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, lines 5) in view of Pinder et al. (US 6105134) and further in view of Oka (US 5537591) and further in view of Wright et al. (US 5839054).

Claim 19, Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAPA) (Fig.1) discloses an information utilization apparatus for requesting information for at least one of displaying, printing, or storing, wherein the accessibility of the information for each of the displaying, printing, or storing changes over time, determining the accessibility of the requested information for displaying, printing, or storing, and allowing displaying, printing, or storing of the requested information depending on the accessibility comprising:

A memory 1002 configured to store encoded 1st data which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the 1st data; a decoding unit 2006 provided respectively

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corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization and configured to decode the 1st data stored in the memory 1002; A plurality of processing units 2008, 2010 and 2012 arranged respectively corresponding to the decoding unit 2006 and configured to respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization including a display mode, a printing mode and a storage mode, using 2nd data obtained from decoding the 1st data; A judging unit (within a verification unit 2004) configured to judge if a requested operation is executable, upon a request for mode/operation execution (applicant' s specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, lines 5); and An operation mode command issuing unit (within a verification unit 2004) configured to issue a command for action, i.e., displaying, printing and storing, to a decoding unit 2006 for decoding data, i.e., decoding display data, decoding printing and decoding storage data corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request for mode/operation execution. The judging unit 2004 further performs the judging function that the requested operation is executable (applicant's specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, line 5).

AAAP further discloses a message unit configured to issue a message indicating that a requested action is prohibited, the message being issued when the judging unit judges that the requested operation is not executable at a requested time (applicant's specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, line 5, specifically page 3, lines 18-24).

Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) does not clearly disclose the memory 1002 configured to store applicable time information that defines executable time periods of operations respectively corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization in which the verification unit 2004 judges, if a requested operation is executable, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time.

Pinder discloses a memory (Fig. 13; Memory 1207, ROM 1219 and non-volatile memory 1209; Col. 21, lines 60-Col. 22, lines 11 and Fig. 19; Col. 33, lines 40-45 stores a delivered piece of encoded data and applicable time information (Col. 33, lines 25-45); a verification unit (Fig. 1, el. 119, and Fig. 3, DHCT) verifies if a requested operation is executable (i.e., mode of a purchase event) by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time (Col. 33, lines 19-45; i.e., earliest start field 1923 must compare with the current time of the system in order to start the event according to its earliest start time). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) with Pinder so to protect transmitted information against unauthorized access (Col. 1, lines 40-45).

Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) in view of Pinder fails to shows a plurality of decoding units such as a display data decoding unit, a printing data decoding unit

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and a storage decoding unit that arrange respectively to its corresponding plurality of independently operated processing units 2008, 2010 and 2012.

Oka shows a plurality independently operated processing units (Fig. 1 el. 112, 114, 116 and 118) arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of decoding units 106, 107, 108 and 109. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) in view of Pinder to modifying the AAP' s decoding unit 2006 to a plurality of independently decoders arranged respectively corresponding to the plurality of independently operated processing units, as taught by Oka, so to improve the performance of the system by selectively executing independent task on each independent decoder and processing unit.

Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) in view of Pinder and further in view of Oka fails to disclose "a message indicating a time period that allows a requested action."

Wright discloses a process has been requested by a pager in which the requested service is denied by issuing a message indicating a time period that allows a requested action, i.e., try again in several minute (Col. 3, lines 27-38). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) in view of Pinder and further in view of Oka to issue a message, as taught by Wright, so to indicate to user when the service requested will be available and specifically to

relieve user stress because user could not obtain the requested service as expected.

Claim 21 is analyzed with respect to claim 19 in which Admitted prior Art in view of Pinder further discloses an operation command reserving unit (within a verification unit 2004) configured to prevent the issuance of the command (i.e., displaying, printing and storing) to the decoding unit for decoding data accordingly according to the verified applicable authorization data (Applicant's specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, lines 5).

Claim 23, an information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the method is analyzed with respect to claim 19.

Claim 25, an information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the method is analyzed with respect to claim 21.

Claim 27, a storage medium having program code instruction store thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the instruction is analyzed with respect to claim 19.

Claim 29, a storage medium having program code instruction store thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data is analyzed with respect to claim 21.

Claims 31, 33, 35, 37, 39 and 41, "wherein execution of printing operation and execution of the storage operation are prohibited until a certain time period of time passes and permitted after the certain period of time passes" is further met by Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP), Pinder, and Oka in view of Wright in which Wright clearly discloses user is able to resume requested service, i.e., try again in several minute, when the service is no longer prohibited, i.e. no longer busy.(Col. 3, lines 27-38).

2. Claims 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant 's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA; Fig. 1; Specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, lines 5) in view of Pinder et al. (US 6105134) and further in view of Wright et al. (US 5839054).

Claim 20, Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) discloses an information utilization apparatus for requesting information for at least one of displaying, printing, or storing, wherein the accessibility of the information for each of the displaying, printing, or storing changes over time, determining the accessibility of the requested

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information for displaying, printing, or storing, and allowing displaying, printing, or storing of the requested information depending on the accessibility comprising:

A memory 1002 configured to store encoded 1st data which defines a plurality of modes of utilization of the 1st data;

A decoding unit 2006 configured to decode the 1st data stored in the memory 1002;

A data storage unit 2050 configured to store 2nd data obtained from decoding the 1st data 2006; A display processing unit 2008, a printing processing unit 2010 and a storage processing unit 2012 configured to respectively execute operations corresponding to the plurality of modes of utilization (a display mode, a printing mode and a storage mode) using the 2nd data stored in the data storage unit 2050;

A judging unit (within a verification unit 2004) configured to judge if a requested operation is executable; and an operation command issuing unit (within a verification unit 2004) configured to issue commands for actions to the decoding unit 2006 and a processing unit 2008, 2010 and 2012 corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request if the 2nd data is not stored in the data storage unit (not authorize to decode; therefore, the user could not store the encoded data) and configured to issue a command for action to the processing unit corresponding to the mode of utilization indicated by the request if the 2nd data is stored in the data storage unit when the judging unit judges that the requested operation is executable (Applicant's specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, lines 5).

AAAP further discloses a message unit configured to issue a message indicating that a requested action is prohibited, the message being issued when the judging unit judges that the requested operation is not executable at a requested time (applicant's specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, line 5, specifically page 3, lines 18-24).

AAAP does not clearly disclose the memory 1002 stores applicable time information that defines executable time periods of operations in which the verification unit 2004 judges, if a requested operation is executable, by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time.

Pinder discloses a memory (Fig. 13; Memory 1207, ROM 1219 and non-volatile memory 1209; Col. 21, lines 60-Col. 22, lines 11 and Fig. 19; Col. 33, lines 40-45 stores a delivered piece of encoded data and applicable time information (Col. 33, lines 25-45); a verification unit (Fig. 1, el. 119, and Fig. 3, DHCT) verifies, if a requested operation is executable (i.e., mode of a purchase event), by reading the applicable time information from the memory and referring to an executable time period corresponding to a mode of utilization indicated by the request to compare with a current time (Col. 33, lines 19-45; i.e., earliest start field 1923 must compare with the current time of the system in order to start the event according to its earliest start time).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Admitted Prior Art with Pinder so to protect transmitted information against unauthorized access (Col. 1, lines 40-45).

Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) in view of Pinder fails to disclose "a message indicating a time period that allows a requested action."

Wright discloses a process has been requested by a pager in which the requested service is denied by issuing a message indicating a time period that allows a requested action, i.e., try again in several minute (Col. 3, lines 27-38). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) in view of Pinder to issue a message, as taught by Wright, so to indicate to user when the service requested will be available and specifically to relieve user stress because user could not obtain the requested service as expected.

Claim 22 is analyzed with respect to claim 20 in which AAP in view of Pinder further discloses an operation command reserving unit (within a verification unit 2004) configured to prevent the issuance of the command to the decoding unit 2006 according to the verified applicable authorization data (Applicant's specification page 2, lines 18-page 4, lines 5).

Claim 24, an information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the method is analyzed with respect to claim 20.

Claim 26, an information access control method for use in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the method is analyzed with respect to claim 22.

Claim 28, a storage medium having program code instruction store thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the instruction is analyzed with respect to claim 22.

Claim 30, a storage medium having program code instruction store thereon which perform information access control when executed by a processor in an information utilization apparatus having a memory which stores information including encoded 1st data, the instruction is analyzed with respect to claim 22.

Claims 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42, "wherein execution of printing operation and execution of the storage operation are prohibited until a certain time period of time passes and permitted after the certain period of time passes" is further met by Admitted Applicant Prior Art (AAP) and Pinder in view of Wright in which Wright clearly discloses user is able to resume requested service, i.e., try again in several minute, when the service is no longer prohibited, i.e. no longer busy.(Col. 3, lines 27-38).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher C. Grant can be reached on (571) 272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HT:ht
02/16/2006


HAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER